

WIDER WORLD

READING

- 1 Read the text about living in a society with many different cultures, and decide if the sentences are True (A) or False (B). If there is not enough information to choose True or False, choose Doesn't say (C).

Maria's View of Multicultural Life

In today's global society, more and more people are no longer living in the countries in which they were born. This means that there is a huge mix of cultures and ideas in schools, workplaces and residential areas.

I came to the UK last year from Venezuela. It wasn't easy at first because my English wasn't fluent.

- 1 Today, there can be many different cultures where we work.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 2 Maria couldn't speak any English when she arrived in the UK.
A True B False C Doesn't say

However, I love being with people from many different countries. We have the chance to learn about different traditions and cultures and to participate in different celebrations.

Most people seem very tolerant and accepting of my arrival and the village community where I live have helped my family a lot.

- 3 Maria enjoys being in a multicultural class.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 4 Maria thinks the village community didn't do enough to help her family.
A True B False C Doesn't say

In schools where there is a large number of people from different backgrounds, I think students benefit from a better understanding of the world. The students in my class are all interested in learning about my life in Caracas. They have welcomed me into their world and I have made some good friends. It can be hard starting a new school in your own country. Think how much more difficult it would be in another country.

- 5 Maria says that students want to learn about her culture.
A True B False C Doesn't say

The school is very multicultural and we celebrate the traditions of each country represented, which means that we often have parties.

Tomorrow we're having a Venezuelan party and all my family is helping to prepare the food for it. I believe that sharing food is a wonderful way of helping people to understand each other better.

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- 6 Maria thinks that there are too many parties in the school.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 7 Maria believes that sharing a meal together is a good way of making friends.
A True B False C Doesn't say

I have been able to show the class some videos about my country during geography lessons. Talking to people who live in different parts of the world is a great way to learn.
Next week my father is coming into school to give a talk about farming in our country and what his job here involves.

- 8 The students loved Maria's videos.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 9 Maria's father is going to tell the students about living in a Venezuelan city.
A True B False C Doesn't say

Most of the non-English students in the school are here because their parents work with large multinational companies. However, I've met one or two who had to leave their homes because there was a lot of unemployment in their countries.
Without immigration, our countries would be less interesting.

- 10 Many students in Maria's class came to live in the UK because there was no work for their families in their own countries.
A True B False C Doesn't say

2 Look at the three book reviews and then match the books A, B or C to the questions.

Which book ...

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1 has a plot that was confusing ? | _____ |
| 2 will have more in the same series after it? | _____ |
| 3 has a main character who is the perfect student ? | _____ |
| 4 has characters who don't like each other at the end ? | _____ |
| 5 does the reviewer think people won't like ? | _____ |
| 6 has a main character who does strange things at night time? | _____ |
| 7 has a review which the reader disagreed with? | _____ |
| 8 made the reader want to discover more ? | _____ |
| 9 includes a character who loves danger ? | _____ |
| 10 has a story that covers many years ? | _____ |

TEENAGE BOOK REVIEWS

A Planting the Seed

This is the **first in a series** of family history novels which will follow the lives of one family **over two hundred years**. It's only the first book and it's still a long book, but I couldn't stop reading it. Two six-year-old brothers lose their parents and have to try to survive on their own. An uncle comes to look after them, but he only wants to take them to his farm and put them to work. We see how the boys' lives change because of what happens to them. **In the end** they both become very wealthy, but an argument about business ends their relationship. **I can't wait to read the next** one to find out what happens.

B Do You Really Want To Do That?

This interesting novel, about a young teenager who keeps doing **dangerous things** like climbing on top of buildings and jumping off bridges into the river, looks at why people might want to do such things and what this can do to people. The boy always gets good marks at school and appears to be the **model student**, but at night he lives a completely different life. When his **parents are asleep** he creeps out of his house to do something dangerous. However, one night he sees something that changes his life forever. I can't tell you what because that would spoil the story. But I strongly recommend you read this book if you love adventure and mystery.

C One Dark Story

This must be one of **the worst books** I've ever read. The **plot** was completely impossible to understand and the three main characters, two girls and a boy, are not people you would want to meet. The cover says that it's a detective story which will keep you interested all the time. I was already confused by the third page. I feel that I've really wasted two hours of my life reading this. I can't believe **that other reviews** said it was brilliant. I'm sure they were reading another book!